DECLASSIFIED

THURSDAY
OCTOBER 28, 1954

Miriam Camp called on me this morning. She is now working out of London for "The Economist". We discussed recent happenings regarding Western European union.

Dick Eldridge came to see me. He said he was concerned over the charges being made by some of Mendès' close friends, [redacted] particularly Jean-Jacques Servan-Schreiber, that I was agitating against Mendès and aligning myself with his political enemies. I told Dick I was familiar with these allegations and it seemed to me [redacted] foolish and childish for them to be carrying on as they had been doing. This is especially true since I have made no comments nor had any communications with the State Department following the Brussels Conference except to do what I could to bring about the alternative agreement, which now looks promising. Since one of the things quoted to him was my close association with Laniel, I told him that in the past eighteen or more months I had been here I had never met or laid eyes on Laniel, and this is more or less typical of some of the other unsubstantiated things being said. They really ought to get over the idea there is any conspiracy against them. Actually, like other officials of the United States Government, our chief desire is to see Mendès obtain ratification and, also, put through the new programs so badly needed in France. Being in the Embassy, Dick is thoroughly familiar with my inactivity in the field of French domestic politics, and he said he would handle this matter appropriately with the people who had mentioned it to him.

Dick himself, who has more widespread contacts in France than anyone else in the Embassy, thinks Mendès is a [redacted] "tricky" individual, but is steadily increasing his popularity in France, especially through his action proposals and his appeals on the radio, over the heads of Parliamentarians, to the people.

DECLASSIFIED
DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
REVIEWED BY CEC DATE 7-1-81
☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH: REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED☑RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE DENIED☐
FA FOI EXEMP (S)

DECLASSIFIED



He believes had Mendès backed the EDC Treaty it could easily have been passed. Dick spoke in this connection of the strange position in which many of the anti-EDC people had placed themse[illegible]s, particularly those who were opposed to any form of German rearmament, by now having to vote for a fuller measure of sovereignty for the Federal Republic, its admission without discrimination as a member of NATO, and the reconstitution of a German National Army and General Staff, than would have been the case under the provisions of the Paris and Bonn Treaties.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY CAC DATE 7-1-81

☐or XDS☐EXT. DATE
TS AUTH. REASON(S)
ENDORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐
DECLASSIFIED RELEASABLE☑
RELEASE IN FULL☐
EA or FOI EXEMPTIONS

DECLASSIFIED